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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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HIV, STD and Hepatitis
Immunization
Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
PH Nursing/Border Health
TB Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

Base Station Physicians' Committee
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BASE STATION PHYSICIANS' COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

Members Present

Dunford, M.D., Jim – City of San Diego
Glasser, M.D., Judd – Tri-City
Grad, M.D., Michele – Palomar/Pomerado
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Palomar
Kramer, M.D., Mark – Sharp Memorial
Linnik, M.D., Bill – Sharp Grossmont
Madati, M.D., Jamil – Children's
Reilly, M.D., Ian – Scripps La Jolla
Schwartz, M.D., Brad – American Medical Response
Workman, R.N., Debi – Palomar College

County Staff Present

Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Pate, R.N., Rebecca
Royer, R.N., Diane
Stepanski, Barbara

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

Guests Present

Anderson, R.N., Marilyn – Vista Fire
Bourdon, R.N., Darlene – Scripps Mercy
Broyles, R.N., Linda – AMR/RCCP
Buono, M.D., Colleen – UCSD/Palomar
Cerrone, R.N., Sharon – Mercy Air
Dotson, R.N., Melody – UCSD
Howard, R.N., LuAnn – Scripps La Jolla
Johnson, Wayne – S.D. Med. Serv. Enterprise
Kelly, R.N., Donna – UCSD ROC
Kiefer, Karen – Julian/Cuyamaca FPD
Majerczak, R.N., Karen – Tri-City
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Sharp Grossmont
Ochs, R.N., Ginger – San Diego Fire Rescue
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Sharp Memorial
Ross, Alyssa – City of San Diego
Sallee, M.D., Don – Naval Med. Ctr. San Diego
Scott, Chris – North County Fire
Seabloom, R.N., Lynne – Oceanside Fire
Steen, R.N., Pam – Mercy Air

I. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judd Glasser, M.D., Chair, brought the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Jamil Madati, M.D., Seconded by Ian Reilly, M.D., to approve the Minutes of May 20, 2008 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)

New HHSA Director: Nick Macchione has been appointed the new Director for County HHSA. Mr. Macchione was the Agency Deputy Director/Regional Manager of the North Coastal Region for HHSA and has been involved in many of the health issues of the County. He has Master's degrees in public health from New York University and Columbia University. Mr. Macchione replaced Jean Shepard who retired after 32 years with the County.

In-service: Several issues deserve clarification from this year's in-service. The age for CPAP will be 15 years old and above. There should not be deviations to use it at younger ages, until more experience is gained with the treatment.

Historical Data Added: Barbara Stepanski, County EMS, added some historical data on the Overall Percent Hours on ED Sat Per Month for San Diego County, from January, 2000 to May, 2008.

Earthquake Drill: This fall's disaster drill will be an earthquake scenario on the Southern San Andreas fault. San Diego will serve as a reception area for casualties from surrounding counties. Pauline Thomas, R.N., County EMS, has been working with the skilled nursing facilities to make sure they're involved in disaster planning.

SONGS Drill: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) will be conducting a drill in August, 2008.

IV. BASE HOSPITAL NURSE COORDINATOR'S REPORT (Cheryl Graydon, R.N.)

The BHNC's met with Ms. Stepanski and Diane Royer, R.N., County EMS, and the last two months reports have been filed for 2007-08. The group also discussed their April audit and the PPR's that are being left at facilities regarding compliance. From a random audit of 30 charts, it was discovered that some facilities had many of them left and some hardly any. It was noted that BLS agencies have a tendency to not leave the charts so that is being worked on.

V. ROC (Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium) Update (Dan Davis, M.D.)

(Donna Kelly, R.N.): A total of 174 patients have been enrolled in the Hypertonic Saline Study in San Diego County. It is anticipated that the City of San Diego will begin participating in the Hypertonic Saline Study by the end of June, 2008. It is hoped that

more patients can be added. All documentation was prepared for the clinical prime trial before it was sent to the FDA. The FDA had asked for the consent form to be revised and a letter of notification to the next of kin be prepared and those have been done. That work is now at the UCSD IRB for their review. Still needs to be reviewed by the other IRB's and hope to send it back to the FDA by the end of June, 2008.

VI. AGITATED DELIRIUM VIDEO (Judd Glasser, M.D.)

A video was presented that was produced by the Las Vegas Police Department and EMS regarding how to deal with agitated delirious patients. This provides information on how prehospital caregivers can best deal with this type of patient(s) and which patient(s) can fit into the category of the protocol for sedation. These patients are at a higher risk during the summer months and obesity may increase the risk of death. It is imperative that law enforcement and EMS personnel work together and recognize these behaviors such as irrational speech, shouting and yelling may be signs of delirium. They may feel threatened or in a panicky state or be hallucinating. They may become violent and destroy property. At times, extra police officers may need to be dispatched to take custody of the patient(s). The goal is always to take the patient(s) into custody as safely as possible without injuring them or the officers and turn the subject over to medical personnel as quickly and smoothly as possible.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of Taser guns by law enforcement and whether or not the barbs should be removed by prehospital personnel or law enforcement. In some jurisdictions, police are not allowed to remove the barbs, but in some cases, law enforcement will go ahead and remove them.

VII. CUFFED VS. UN-CUFFED TUBES (Dr. Glasser/Jamil Madati, M.D.)

Dr. Glasser stated that there is a trend to move away from un-cuffed tubes in the pediatric population. There is a cost related to changing over to all cuffed tubes. Jamil Madati, M.D., Children's Hospital, stated that in new guidelines, it is specifically discussed that in the hospital setting, having a cuffed tube is a good, if not better than an un-cuffed tube and most hospitals are following this lead. Also, the tube doesn't become as easily dislodged.

VIII. KING AIRWAY (Dr. Glasser)

Dr. Glasser discussed the possibility of an alternate airway device to replace the Combitube which has shown some promise in increased use around the state and nation. Jim Dunford, M.D., City of San Diego, showed one and stated it has different sizes with one syringe rather than two and is about one-half the cost of a Combitube. It is being used in some counties in Northern California on a trial basis.

**IX. HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THREATS (HACOT)
(Linda Rosenberg, R.N.)**

No report.

X. SAN DIEGO HEALTHCARE DISASTER COUNCIL
(Linda Rosenberg, R.N.)

All the contracts for HPP (Healthcare Preparedness Program) Year Six have been signed so hospitals are being allowed to spend their allocated funds. Hospitals need to submit their invoices back to the County as soon as possible.

The earthquake drill is scheduled for November 13-14 and 17-18, 2008. Web EOC training is still available through the County's Office of Emergency Services (OES) which was utilized effectively during the October, 2007 wildfires. Web EOC allows workers to access the Command Center through a Blackberry or Internet hook-up, even if you are out of town.

A two-hour NIMS (National Incident Management System) training class (a Joint Commission requirement), is scheduled for July 29, 2008. Contact Ms. Rosenberg if interested.

Sharon Carlson, R.N., Sharp Grossmont and Ms. Rosenberg will be conducting four classes at the MOC (Medical Operations Center) training at County EMS for health care personnel beginning this week. MICN's are being encouraged to attend.

XI. ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Discuss changing the protocols on the use of Amiodarone vs. Lidocaine.

Consider adding or changing the criteria for the pronouncement of death in the field surrounding blunt trauma or blunt arrest and possibly add absence of vital signs.

Resource Access Program.

XII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2008, 11:00 a.m. at the Sharp Spectrum Auditorium, 8695 Spectrum Center Court, Kearny Mesa, San Diego.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary
County EMS